



12th District Milwaukee County Supervisor

PEGGY WEST

C O U N T Y C O N N E C T I O N

FALL, 2004

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IN THIS ISSUE

Page 2

2005 Budget Update

Page 3

Legislative Update

Page 4

County Programs & Services

Page 5

Peggy West in the Community

Page 6

Community Information

Page 7

Community Profile: Esperanza Unida, Inc.

Page 8

Milwaukee County Parks

Page 9

Kosciuskzko Community Center

Page 10

2004 Fall Park Cleanup

Page 11

Important Phone Numbers

Page 12

Speak Out!

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family in good health and great spirits.

It's already approaching eight months since I was elected to represent you on the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors. As you will see when looking through this newsletter, they have been a very busy eight months.

I've worked on sponsoring legislation to bring dollars back to the community, I've researched and implemented programs/services that will prove to be a constant revenue source for Milwaukee County and I've sponsored a number community activities in the 12th District.

This is just a drop in the bucket to my continued commitment to our community. I've included a Speak Out! Section in this newsletter that highlights some areas that I see are concerns in the community and where I intend to direct my time and resources. If you are interested in any of these initiatives, please let me know. If there are other areas that you are important to you, I'd like to know that too.

I will continue to work hard for you and with you. I'm always happy to have your input and feedback. Knowing what is important to you and learning your opinions on issues and actions that impact Milwaukee County government is invaluable. So, please take the time to call or send me a note. As part of a democratic body, these communications help me get to know you better and it assists me in my efforts to represent you on the Milwaukee County Board.

Together we can make County government work for you!

Your truly,

2005 Budget Update

County Board adopts responsible budget that retains vital County Services

The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors recently approved a fiscally responsible County Budget for 2005 that retains vital programs and services. Despite rising costs, the County Board constructed a budget that does not require massive borrowing to fund employee pensions or the sale of huge amounts of County land to balance the budget, as proposed by the County Executive. The County Board was able to remove a significant amount of “one-time” revenues, preserve key services and programs and limit the overall tax levy to 2.9% above 2004.

The County Board reviewed the County Executive’s Recommended Budget and made some key changes to help restore long-term fiscal responsibility to County finances. The County Executive proposed to borrow, through the use of pension obligation bonds, hundreds of millions of dollars to fund the County pension plan in hopes that investment returns would exceed the borrowing costs. The County Board chose not to include the pension obligation bond plan for several reasons, including the lack of detailed information about its significant risks and the need to change state law before the plan could be implemented.

The County Executive also wanted to sell more than \$11 million of County land to balance the operating budget for 2005. The County Board reduced the amount of “one-time” land sale revenue anticipated for 2005 by \$6.6 million to better reflect the policy put forth in the 2004 budget by the County Executive that “budgeting of land sales to support ongoing operations is

not a recommended financial practice.” This action reduces the pressure in future years to sell public lands, cut programs or raise taxes to balance the operating budget.

The 2005 Budget retains vital and popular County programs and services, from the Department on Aging that cares for the frail elderly, to our nationally recognized Zoological Gardens. The County Board also restored funding for UW-Extension programs and the Farm and Fish Hatchery Program at the House of Correction. This program provides much needed fresh produce to local food pantries and stocks fish in County Park lagoons for anglers of all ages to enjoy. Transit and paratransit riders will also see no route cuts or fare increases for the first time in several years.

The 2005 Budget contains total expenditures of \$1.18 billion and a property tax levy of \$225.8 million. The 2.9% change in the tax levy for 2005 is significantly less than the increase in new construction (new taxable properties) and the rate of inflation, which totals 3.9%. The property tax rate per \$1,000 of equalized value is \$4.54, which is a *decrease* of 22 cents per \$1,000 from 2004.

I’d like to thank the residents of the 12th District who either:

- Came to one of the two listening sessions at the Mitchell Park Pavilion at the Kosciuszko Community Center that I held to discuss budget issues
- Those who completed the Your Opinion Counts survey I mailed and returned them indicating your priorities
- Or, those of you who simply called my office to share your views and concerns

In the upcoming years, I will continue to seek your input as I try to develop viable, creative options to hold the line on taxes. This, while continuing to provide core programs and services along with the quality of life offerings that are of value to the residents of the 12th District.



Supervisor West's 2004 Milwaukee County Legislative Update

Since my election this April, I have either sponsored or co-sponsored several legislative initiatives that either attempts to create several revenue streams for Milwaukee County and provide on-the-job training for an often-neglected population in Milwaukee County.

Community Integration Program (CIP) Funding

This legislation was co-sponsored by Supervisor Peggy West to request the State of Wisconsin to increase the daily rate paid to individuals with disabilities in the County's CIP. CIP is a program that encourages community-based treatment over institutional care for persons with disabilities. This model results in more beneficial treatments to County residents at a lower cost.

OUTCOME: Legislation is pending.

House of Correction (HOC) Printing Pilot Program

This legislation was co-sponsored by Supervisor West to determine if countywide printing costs could be reduced by using the House of Correction print shop as opposed to using privately owned vendors. The Print Shop at the House of Correction was established both as a means to generate revenue and as a rehabilitative vehicle for those jailed in the house. This two-month pilot program was completed in September 2004 and after only two months, the program saved Milwaukee County over \$24,000.

OUTCOME: Based on this initial success, the 2005 Milwaukee County Adopted budget has instituted this initiative as part of its normal operations.



Income Maintenance Program Funding

This legislation, co-sponsored by Supervisor West, expressed opposition to the State of Wisconsin of an impending cuts in funding by as much as \$1.6 million to administer Income maintenance programs in Milwaukee County. Income maintenance programs are associated with federal entitlement programs such as medical assistance, food stamps and burial aids.

OUTCOME: Because of this resolution, the State of Wisconsin informed Milwaukee County that there would be no cuts in funding.

Park East Redevelopment Compact (PERC)

The demolition of the Park East Expressway has made 16.6 acres of county-owned land for future development. To ensure that the Milwaukee County community receives an equitable return on the sale of its land, Supervisor West co-sponsored legislation to establish a set of goals to guide developers in offering proposals for the use of that land. Provisions of the agreement include local hiring preferences, enhanced apprenticeship programs, increased green space, inclusion of an affordable housing component, paying living wages by employers and compliance with disadvantaged business enterprise expectations.

OUTCOME: Legislation will go the full County Board during the December 2004 Board. Approval by the full County Board is expected.

County Programs & Services

Milwaukee County Home Repair Program offers no-cost and low-interest loans

The Milwaukee County Home Repair Program offers home repair loans at no cost or at a maximum of 3% annual interest. Seniors and low income homeowners can qualify for a deferred loan which allows payments to be made only when the house is sold.

There are no financing fees, origination costs, prepayment penalties or any other costs; however, the loan will be secured by a lien on the house.

Work is bid to experienced, insured private contractors registered with the County. The homeowner approves the final award of all contracts.

Examples of eligible work include (though nearly any repair to the structure of a house is eligible):

- No heat, water or power
- Collapsed or stopped sewer or water lines
- Gas leaks
- Dangerous electrical problems, sparking fixtures
- Failed water heater
- Exterior door (prime door), if needed to secure house

A simple application can be taken over the phone. Interested owners should call 278-4917 to apply or get more information.

JUST FOR SENIORS:

Seniors: Having trouble paying your property taxes? There is HOPE.

If you are a Milwaukee County senior aged 60 or over and you own your own home but are having trouble paying your property taxes, there's HOPE.

HOPE (Homeowners Options Program for the Elderly) is a free service, that is designed to help homeowners like find ways to pay past-due property taxes and develop long-term financial solutions so that seniors can remain in their home.

When you call HOPE, an experienced financial counselor will schedule a confidential, in-home appointment. During the visit, the counselor will first gather information to get a clear picture of the situation (i.e., your income, assets, monthly expenses and outstanding debts). They will then provide a complete financial assessment and help develop a personalized action plan to deal with both immediate and future needs. Suggestions could include a reverse mortgage, refinancing, homestead tax credits or changes in your budget.

There are many other community and in-home services available to help seniors. Your HOPE counselor can connect residents with the services that are right for each individual. Call HOPE for free help: (414)-342-4560.

Supervisor West Seeks Nominees for Milwaukee County Senior Citizen Hall of Fame

Milwaukee County will once again honor older adults in Milwaukee County who have made significant contributions to the community by inducting them into the Milwaukee County Senior Citizens Hall of Fame.

Supervisor West would like to encourage 12th District residents to nominate seniors in the community who have contributed their time and talent to improve the quality of life in Milwaukee County.

Please call Milwaukee County Supervisor Peggy West at 278-4269 to nominate a well-deserving senior.

Explore • Wonder • Learn
Visit the Milwaukee Public Museum!

\$1 off
Museum
admission



Offer valid for regular Museum admission, excludes Humphrey IMAX Dome Theater. • Not valid with any other offers or discounts.
Offer expires June 30, 2005.

Milwaukee Public
MUSEUM

Open daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Downtown Milwaukee
(414) 278-2728 • www.mpm.edu

\$1.00 off_A/S/C

Peggy West in the Community



Supervisors West, Clark, and Dimitrijevic volunteer as "Celebrity Waiters" for La Causa, Inc., helping to raise \$90,000 for child-based service programming at La Causa.



Supervisor West visits with students at Project Excel while they work with members of Artists Working in Education (AWE, Inc.) to create a 3 dimensional work of art to be displayed in their school.



Supervisor West celebrates Cinco de Mayo in Mitchell Park with a little "caballera."



Supervisor West and Lupe Martinez, UMOS, Inc., awarded the 2004 Hispanic Woman of the Year Award to Eloisa Balderas.



Supervisor West in the South Shore Frolics parade.

Community Information

2005 Milwaukee County Community Development Block Grants

The Community Development Block Grant program distributes Federal dollars to assist community organizations in improving conditions in their neighborhoods through programs/services or infrastructure improvements.

The annual competitive application process for CDBG funding occurs in May of each year. Non-profit organizations who'd like to receive an application for the 2005 process should contact Supervisor West's office at 278-4269.

The following are 12th District agencies that were awarded funding for 2005:

La Causa, Inc.
Parking Lot Project
\$40,000

Walker's Square Park
Park Improvement
\$40,000

Lao Family Community, Inc.
Services for Elderly
\$40,000

Kosciuszko Park
Basketball Court Renovation
\$38,400

Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Foundation
Public Facilities Improvements
\$30,000

Esperanza Unida, Inc.
Auto Training Improvement Project
\$30,000

Journey House, Inc.
Workforce Development Program
\$14,000

Milwaukee County offers a FREE Family Law Self-Help Clinic

If you need help with family law matters such as divorce, separation, or child support and custody, but can't afford a lawyer, the Milwaukee County Department of Child Support offers a FREE Family Law Self-Help Clinic. Every Monday - Wednesday at the Milwaukee County Courthouse, you can meet with Child Support Enforcement staff and volunteer attorneys from the Milwaukee Bar Association.

FREE Family Law Self-Help Clinic will:

- Tell you where to get the proper forms and documents
- Show you how to prepare and complete the proper forms and documents
- Explain the procedures for properly completing, filing and serving paperwork



The clinic is walk-in only (no appointments) from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, at the Milwaukee County Courthouse, Room G-9, 901 N. 9th St., Milwaukee, WI 53233.

Community Profile: Esperanza Unida, Inc.

General Overview

The mission of Esperanza Unida is to 1) providing services, guidance, training, education and economic development to empower people living in poverty; 2) to assist people in growing personally and in becoming self-sufficient and 3) to take initiative to provide caring support and protection of rights to minorities and others who will continue with pride to the greater Milwaukee community.

This mission is accomplished by providing the following programs/services:

Business Training

Auto Repair, Auto Body, Welding, Construction, Customer Service/Applications

All training programs are 10 – 12 week training programs, four hours per day, Monday through Friday. Training is taught in both English and Spanish, is free and is located in the heart of the community.

In addition, the manager of Esperanza del Futuro, the organization's state-licensed child care center, offers monthly continuing education programming for child care workers and a 6-month training program to prepare child care workers for their Child Development Associate (CDA).

Used Automobile Sales and Auto

Body Repair Shop

The used automobile sales and auto body repair shop is an extension of the Auto Repair Business Training Department. Through the Vehicle Donation Program, Esperanza Unida receives donated used cars, trucks and vans from people throughout Southeastern Wisconsin. These donations support the training and job placement efforts. Vehicles are inspected for safety and sold to area residents at prices as low as \$300.

This program is a training tool for auto repair skills. It provides valuable job skills for students while generating financial support for Esperanza Unida.

Vehicles are sold on the used car lot at 1329 W. National Avenue, Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Learning Center

The Learning Center is for students and community residents who wish to work on their GED and/or to study ESL.

Job Placement Services/Employment Center

A full-time Job Placement Coordinator works with students to match their interests and skills to employment opportunities and to prepare them for job searches.

Through the Employment Center, unemployed residents find a connection to temporary and permanent work assignments. Esperanza Unida is the employer and contracts are negotiated with local businesses. Priority relationships are with employers who are seeking temporary to permanent workers.

Pre-Apprenticeship Program

This program assists residents in meeting the minimum requirements of an apprenticeship in the construction trades.

Family Literacy Program

Families come to Esperanza Unida two nights a week to share a meal, learn English and engage in family-oriented literacy activities. Thirty families participate in this program at any given time.

Legal Resource Center

In addition to representing injured and unemployed workers in workman's compensation and unemployment insurance hearings, a full time attorney assists students with other legal matters including drivers license reinstatement, utility shut-offs, landlord tenant matters and similar legal issues requiring resolution.

Youth Pathways

At risk youth from community high schools are placed in jobs in the welding, child care, auto, legal and administrative departments and at the organization's Spanish language book store and coffee shop – Que Pasa.



Esperanza Unida

1329 West National Avenue

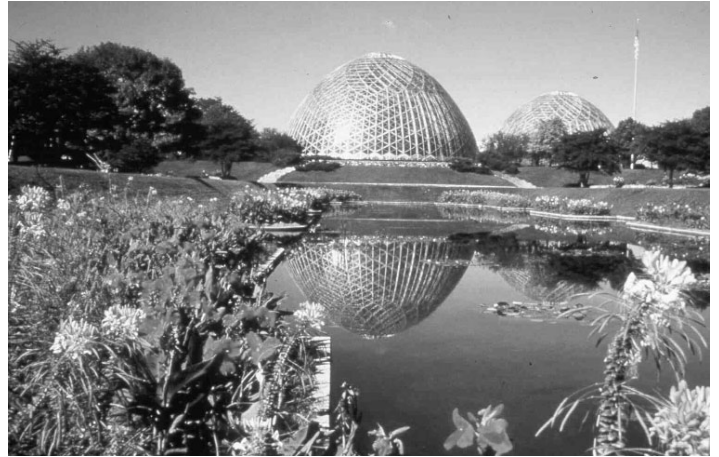
**For more information,
please call 671-0251**

Milwaukee County Parks

Looking for a place to hold an Event – Look no further than the Milwaukee County Parks

For your special family gathering, community-group event, or business function, you'll find a Milwaukee County Parks site to complement your event. Weddings, family reunions, birthday parties, business meetings, banquets, community-group socials, revivals, concerts, plays, and sports tournaments are among the many events held at rental sites in the parks each year.

In the heart of the 12th Supervisory District alone, the Milwaukee County Parks System has four diverse meeting locations (See below).



Kosciuszko Community Center Conference Room

2201 S. 7th Street

Within this community center is an executive conference room for any meeting.

For availability or reservations, call 645-4624.

Mitchell Park Pavilion (on the lagoon)

2200 W. Pierce St.

In the middle of the 61-acre park, the pavilion is situated on the lagoon's northern shore and is surrounded by trees. The scenic view and high, beamed ceilings create a spacious atmosphere.

For availability or reservations, call 257-8005.

Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory (The Domes), 524 S. Layton Blvd.

For a memorable event in a picturesque setting, treat your guests to an evening among the waterfalls, flowerbeds and cacti of the Mitchell Park Conservatory. Rental includes use of the three domes and the lobby area. Round dining tables are set up in the lobby, banquet tables for your food service are set up in the Floral Show Dome, and your bar service is near the Tropical Dome. For very large events, food and beverage stations may be scattered throughout the domes.

For availability or reservations, call 649-8126.



**Milwaukee County
PARKS
YOURS TO DISCOVER!**

Milwaukee County Parks facilities are available for rent for community and private events. Park buildings offer not only scenic views, but also nearby outdoor activities. *Park buildings are not available for rent on the following holidays: Jan 1, July 4, Dec. 24, 25 and 31.*

Kosciusko Community Center

2201 S. 7 St.

Center Hours

Monday–Friday noon–8pm

Saturday (Sept.–May only) 9am–3pm

Membership card required for all activities

Adult Programs

Weight Room

Year round, Open during all building hours

Equipment:

free weights, weight machines, exercise bikes, tread mills. Instruction on proper use of equipment.

Women's Workout Area

Year round

Equipment:

free weights; exercise bikes; tread mills; steps; tapes for Pilates, yoga and step aerobics.

Fun & Fitness

Aerobics, MW 5–6pm or 6–7pm, Age 14 & up

One-hour class includes 45 minutes of aerobic activity to enhance cardiovascular fitness and 15 minutes of strengthening and toning for arms, legs, and abs.

Open Gym, Sept.–May: M–F noon–5pm

No open gym during summer hours

Billiards for Seniors, M–F noon–4:30pm

Open play



Programs for Children & Teens

Special “Days Off”

For children & teens

Have a great time at Kozy during the MPS winter and spring breaks.

Supervised Open Activities

Sept.–May, M–F 3–8pm

MPS “days off” 1–8pm

Arts & Crafts, Computer, Game Room:

billiards, darts, foosball, table games, Homework Help, Parties/Special Events, Sports & Games–outside and in the gym and Tournaments/Contests

2004 Membership Information

Membership is good for one year from date of purchase

Ages	5 – 12	\$7.39
	13 – 17	\$16.90
	18 and over	\$17.95
	Non residence	\$68.64

Call the Community Center for additional information on Membership:

(414) 645-4624

24-hr hotline (414) 645-4806

Boxing & the Martial Arts

Boxing – Open Ring, Year round, For adults and teens. Work out on your own.

Karate & Judo, TuTh 6–7pm, Age 5–adult
For beginners through advanced, No class fee, but a uniform may be required.



2004 Fall Park Clean Up

Keeping Milwaukee County Parks Clean and Safe

Supervisor West worked along with residents in the neighborhood to clean up the debris in Mitchell Park and Walker's Square Park this fall (A clean-up effort was scheduled in Kosciuszko Park but it was rained out).

Over four dozen area residents cleaned children's play areas, playgrounds, pools, basketball courts, picnic tables and raked leaves that filled a couple dozen bags. Supervisor West will continue to coordinate fall and spring clean ups throughout the 2004 – 2008 Supervisory term.



Volunteers for the Parks Clean Up are pictured and include Supervisor West, Alderman Witkowak, Jessica Jones of the UCC Teen Center, Fernando Campos of UCC, the Marquette University Community Service Center and Joel Martinez of the Walker's Square Neighborhood.



If you'd like additional information or would like to participate in an upcoming Park Clean Up, please call Supervisor West's office at 278-4269.

Service Guide for Milwaukee County Residents

Art Museum

General information224-3220

County Supervisor Peggy West278-4269

Stephanie Ortiz, Legislative Assistant278-5344

Courts

Small Claims278-4140

Civil Division278-4120

Criminal Division278-4538

District Attorney's Office

E. Michael McCann278-4653

Emergency/Public Safety

Sheriff (non-emergency)278-4788

Burn Center (24 hours)272-2876

Mental Health Crisis TTY-TDD

Hotline257-6300

Emergency Management278-4709

Poison Center266-2222

Suicide Prevention/Intervention

Mental Health Crisis257-7222

Handicapped & Disabled

General information278-3932

Historical Society

General information273-8288

House of Correction

General information427-4700

Visiting information427-4720

Housing & Community Development

Rent Assistance278-4894

Jury Services

General information278-4468

Emergency Calls278-4080

Reserve Juror Message454-9200

Marriage Licenses278-4070**Medical Examiner**

General information223-1200

Mental Health Complex

General information257-6995

Admitting257-7260

TTY-TDD Hotline257-6300

Mitchell Park Domes

General information649-9800

Milwaukee Public Museum

General information278-2702

IMAX Theater319-4629

Milwaukee County Parks

General information257-6100

Golf Reservations475-6222

Web Page: www.countyparks.com/golf

Park Watch257-4575

Pool/Beach Hotline645-4806

Permits/Reservations257-8005

District 12 Parks

Mitchell Park649-9199

524 S. Layton Blvd.

Kosciuszko Park643-0120

2201 S. 7th Street

Walker's Square Park550-6451

1031 S. 9th Street

Sheriff's Department

General information278-4700

TDD Emergency278-5252

Transit Department

Bus Routes/Schedules/Fares344-6711

Customer comments937-3218

TTY information line343-1704

Transit Plus343-1700

Victim/Witness Service

General Info-Felony278-4667

General Info-Misdemeanor278-4670

Zoo - Milwaukee County

General information771-5500

12th District Community Guide**16th Street Community**

Health Center672-1315

Ace Boxing Club672-7583

Alianza329-4500

Area Health Education

Center System384-8575

Clark Square Community Association

1912 W. Greenfield Ave383-7604

Council for the Spanish Speaking

614 W. National Ave.384-3700

El Rincon de la Salud

1107 W. National Ave.643-9595

Esperanza Unida

1329 W. National Ave.671-0251

Federation for Civic Action

1220 W. Wind Lake Ave.672-8444

Forest Home Library

1432 W. Forest Home Ave.286-3083

Greater Mitchell Street Association

1717 S. 12th St. Suite 206383-6601

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

816 W. National Ave643-6963

H.O.M.I.E.S915-0988

Hope House645-2122

Independence First

600 W Virginia St291-7520

Interfaith for the Elderly291-7500

Journey House

1900 W. Washington Ave647-0548

La Causa

809 W. Greenfield647-5980

Latino Community Center LCC

807 S. 14th St.394-8140

Latina Resource Center389-6500

Lincoln Neighborhood Redevelopment

2266 S. 13th St671-5619

Lincoln Village Business Association

1133 W. Lincoln Ave672-2249

Mexican Fiesta

1220 W. Wind Lake Ave.383-7066

Milwaukee Alliance385-9384

Milwaukee Christian Center645-1974

Modjeska Youth Theater Company

1134 W. Mitchell St.645-0700

Neighborhood Housing Services

1407 W. Lincoln Ave.383-2272

Neighbor's of Historical Walker's Point

934 S. 3rd St.645-3421

Perez-Pena Ltd.273-1262

Project Excel224-1066

SER Jobs for Progress

1020 W. Mitchell St.649-2640

Social Development Commission-SDC South

931 W. Madison Ave643-8444

UMOS

910 W. Mitchell St389-6600

United Community Center-UCC

1028 S. 9th St.384-3100

Voces De la Frontera

1027 S. 5th St643-1620

Walkers Point Center for the Arts

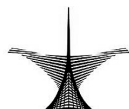
907 W. National Ave672-5300

Walkers Point Youth and Family Center

2030 W. National Ave672-5300

Free Admission to Milwaukee Attractions!

Complimentary admission to Milwaukee County Residents with a valid ID on the following days:

Free every
MondayFree every Monday
from 9:00-11:30 a.m.
(except major holidays)

MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM

Free
10:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon
Mondays and Saturdays

Free Days for 2005:

January 8

February 5

March 5

April 2

November 12

December 3



Supervisor Peggy West
Milwaukee County Courthouse
901 N. 9th Street, Room 201
Milwaukee, WI 53233

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
MILWAUKEE, WI
PERMIT 1630

**Happy
HOLIDAYS!**



As a holiday gift from the
Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors,
Milwaukee County residents
can visit the Zoo

FREE OF CHARGE

December 25, 2004 – January 1, 2005.

Note: Normal rates for parking will still apply.

Current resident or

Detach this and mail to Supervisor West

SPEAK OUT!

Supervisor Peggy West
Milwaukee County Courthouse 901 N. 9th Street, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53233
Phone: 278-4232

Name/Organization _____

Address/City/Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Office Phone _____

Comments _____

**Please check the items that
concern or interest you.**

- ☐ Landlord tenant relations
- ☐ Predatory lending
- ☐ Concerts in Mitchell Park
- ☐ Housing fair
- ☐ Job fairs
- ☐ Teen job fair
- ☐ Back to school fair
- ☐ Park clean up
- ☐ National night out
- ☐ Credit repair workshop
- ☐ Neighborhood watch team development